

Serial No. 10/686,476

Amendment in Resp. to Off. Action of Oct. 17, 2006

UTILITY PATENT

B&D No. JK01483A

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An apparatus for providing workpiece positioning, comprising:

a support surface for supporting a workpiece;

an adjustable retention member ~~movable relative to the support surface along a direction substantially parallel to the support surface for providing workpiece positioning, the retention member~~ having a workpiece-contacting surface; and

a securing mechanism, connected to the retention member, the securing mechanism being constructed for securing the retention member in a desired orientation;

wherein the retention member is capable of pivotally obtaining an extended orientation disposed substantially above the support surface and a retracted orientation disposed below the support surface, the workpiece-contacting surface being completely below the support surface when the retention member is in the retracted position, and the retention member being movable relative to the support surface along a direction substantially parallel to the support surface when the retention member is in the extended orientation, wherein the retention member pivots about an axis substantially perpendicular to the direction.

Claim 2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (currently amended): An apparatus for providing workpiece positioning, comprising:

a deck for supporting a workpiece;

an adjustable positioning device disposed within the deck;

a retention member connected to the adjustable positioning device for providing workpiece positioning, the retention member having a workpiece-contacting surface; and

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a securing mechanism connected to the retention member; for securing the retention member in a desired orientation;

wherein the retention member is capable of pivotally obtaining an extended orientation exterior to the deck and a substantially retracted orientation substantially retracted into the deck for storage, the workpiece-contacting surface being completely below the deck when the retention member is in the retracted position, and the retention member being movable relative to the deck along a direction substantially parallel to the deck when the retention member is in the extended orientation, wherein the retention member pivots about an axis substantially perpendicular to the direction.

Claim 4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (original): The apparatus of claim 3, wherein an adjustable positioning device is a threaded rod.

Claim 6 (original): The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the retention member includes an aperture with segmented threads for pivotally engaging the threaded rod.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the securing mechanism is a pair of spring biased tabs.

Claim 8 (original): The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the securing mechanism is a pair of generally opposing deformable tabs.

Claim 9 (withdrawn): The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the securing mechanism is a pair of pivotal tabs.

Claim 10 (original): The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the apparatus is integrated with a power tool.

Claim 11 (currently amended): An apparatus for providing retractable workpiece positioning,

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comprising:

a housing including a support surface for supporting a workpiece, the support surface having a recess therein;

an adjustable positioning device disposed generally in the housing recess;

a retention member adjustably connected to the adjustable positioning device, said retention member, being configured to pivotally obtain an extended orientation and a retracted orientation for providing workpiece positioning, the retention member having a workpiece-contacting surface; and

a securing mechanism connected to the retention member, for securing the retention member in at least one of the extended orientation and the retracted orientation;

wherein the retention member is capable of pivotally extending exterior to the housing and retracting substantially below the support surface, the workpiece-contacting surface being completely below the support surface when the retention member is in the retracted position, and the retention member being movable relative to the support surface along a direction substantially parallel to the support surface when the retention member is in the extended orientation, wherein the retention member pivots about an axis substantially perpendicular to the direction.

Claim 12 (original): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein further comprising an attachment device connected to the housing for attaching the apparatus to a deck.

Claim 13 (original): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the adjustable positioning device is a threaded rod.

Claim 14 (original): The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the retention member includes an aperture with segmented threads for engaging the threaded rod.

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Claim 15 (withdrawn): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the securing mechanism is a pair of spring biased tabs.

Claim 16 (original): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the securing mechanism is a pair of generally opposing deformable tabs.

Claim 17 (withdrawn): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the securing mechanism is a pair of pivotal tabs.

Claim 18 (original): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the housing is included in a work deck.

Claim 19 (original): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the apparatus is integrated with a power tool.

Claim 20 (currently amended): An apparatus for workpiece positioning, comprising:

a support surface for supporting a workpiece;

means for adjustable positioning;

means for retaining a workpiece in a desired position, the retaining means having a workpiece-contacting surface; and

means for securing the retaining means, the securing means being capable of securing the retaining means in a desired orientation;

wherein the retaining means is capable of obtaining an extended orientation disposed substantially above the support surface and a substantially retracted orientation disposed below the support surface, the workpiece-contacting surface being completely below the support surface when the retention means is in the retracted position, and the retention means being movable relative to the support surface along a direction substantially parallel to the support surface when the retention means is in the extended orientation, wherein the retention member pivots between the extended and retracted

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orientations about an axis substantially perpendicular to the direction.

Claim 21 (original): The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the adjustable positioning means is a threaded rod.

Claim 22 (original): The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the retaining means is adjustably connected to the adjustable positioning means.

Claim 23 (original): The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the retaining means is a cleat.

Claim 24 (withdrawn): The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the securing means is a pair of spring biased tabs.

Claim 25 (original): The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the securing means is a pair of deformable tabs.

Claim 26 (withdrawn): A method for providing unobstrusive workpiece positioning, comprising:

- positioning workpiece on a power tool deck;
- orientating a retention member pivotally into an extended orientation, suitable for contacting the workpiece;
- adjusting the retention member to the desired position; and
- retracting the retention member below the power tool deck work surface.